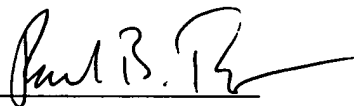


Support for the new claims can be found in the claims as originally filed and in the specification, including: page 5, lines 1-8 (binding to B7L-1); page 5, line 23 to page 6, line 15 (LDCAM variants); page 6, line 25 to page 7, line 35 (soluble or extracellular domain); page 8, lines 32-35 (fusion protein); page 9, lines 5-33 (LDCAM with deletion, insertion, or substitution of amino acids); paragraph bridging pages 9 and 10 (moderate and severe stringency); page 14, lines 17-19 (composition); paragraph bridging pages 16 and 17 (oligomers); page 19, lines 27-33 (recombinant process for producing LDCAM). Applicants therefore submit that there is no new matter introduced in this preliminary amendment.

The Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (206) 265-6293 upon receipt and review of this Response to the Restriction Requirement to discuss any questions or concerns about the present response.

Respectfully submitted,



Paul; B. Tran  
Reg. No. 41,565

Immunex Corporation  
51 University Street  
Seattle, Washington 98101  
(206) 587-0430 (main)  
(206) 233-0644 (FAX)

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date indicated below.

Signed:   
Elizabeth M. McCarthy

Date: October 22, 2002